

REMARKS

Amendments

Revisions to the Specification and Drawings

Applicant has amended the specification to correct typographical errors in various location and a duplicated reference number in the description of Figure 8B. In addition, Applicant is submitting replacement drawings to insert missing reference numbers in Figure 4A to conform to the description of the figure, and to correct the duplicated reference numbers in Figure 8B. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to clarify how a stream of data representing a column of table data is created and stored. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-54

Claims 1-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,794,229 to French et al.. Applicant respectfully submits that reference does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 1-54.

French discloses a database system that stores table data vertically by first parsing the data into columns. Each column of table data is then stored on pages on a disk, with each page containing a certain number of column entries, or cells, based on the page size. The system stores each cell individually and determines if the current cell to be stored can fit on the current page. If not, the system creates another page and links it to the current one. The linked pages form an array that may be accessed as a logical data stream of stored values.

In contrast, Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-51 parses table data into columns of values, each of which is temporarily stored as a continuous strip of data for subsequent formatting into data streams for permanent storage. French does not teach or

suggest creating a continuous strip of data on a temporary storage from a column of table data. Claims 1-51 also claim that the data stream is stored as a continuous strip of compressed data without regard to a page size for the storage device. French evaluates each and every cell to determine if it will fit on the current page, and thus cannot be properly interpreted as storing a data stream without regard to the page size of the storage device. Furthermore, although the Examiner asserts that French teaches storing a "solid" data stream of column cells, French only discloses that the linked pages can be accessed as a logical data stream after the cells have been stored on them.

Similarly, claims 52-54 that claim a data structure in which the fields of data form a continuous stream of compressed data for storing without regard to the page size of the storage device are not anticipated by French.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claimed in claims 1-54 is not anticipated by French under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-54 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-3476.

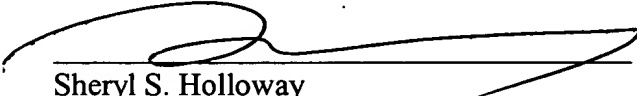
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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